IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph **[0010]** with the following rewritten paragraph.

[0010] Moreover, resolving the question of the physical state of a drug does not resolve all of the issues surrounding the production of transdermal patches from certain highly plasticizing drugs. In fact~~.~~, providing these drugs in a free base form could actually raise additional problems. It comes as no surprise that a drug or solvent loaded into an adhesive system will have an effect on the adhesive properties of the resulting mixtures. In certain cases, with certain drugs, the effect on the hardness and tackiness of the resulting adhesive mixture is minimal. However, in certain other instances, drugs such as, for example, nitroglycerin or nicotine may act as plasticizers for many conventional adhesive systems. Plasticizing drugs such as these, can have a significant deleterious effect on the physical properties of the resulting adhesive matrix depending upon the type of drug, and the amount used. Generally, plasticizing drugs act to soften or disturb the structural integrity of the adhesive making it more fluid like and can, in certain cases, negatively effect the degree of adhesivity.

Please replace paragraph **[0049]** with the following rewritten paragraph.

[0049] These materials all have similar amounts of 2-ethyl hexyl acrylate (A C_4-C_{12} alkyl acrylate) and similar amounts of a functionalizing monomer which facilitates crosslinking. (Three of the formulations have between about 6 and about 7.5% acrylic acid, and the remaining formulations have about 5% hydroxy ~~thylacrylate~~ethylacrylate.) Two of the compositions, both of which have been found to be effective in accordance with the present invention, GELVA 1753 and DUROTAK 87-2852 each contain a

hardening monomer which is methyl acrylate. The remaining formulations contain vinyl acetate as the hardening monomer. Vinyl acetate is a widely employed monomer for this purpose.

Please replace paragraph **[0050]** with the following rewritten paragraph.

[0050] In accordance with the present invention, it is also desirable to use a functionalizing monomer which facilitates crosslinking. Functionalizing monomers provide functional groups for crosslinking. Such functionalizing monomers are well known in the art and include, for example, acrylic acid, hydroxy ethylacrylate, methacrylic acid, and acrylamide. It should be noted, however, that when using an acrylate hardening monomer in an acid form, it is preferred to use a functionalizing monomer, such as acrylic acid, whereas, where the hardening monomer is an alcohol, compounds such as hydroxy ~~thylacrylate~~ ethylacrylate should be chosen. ~~functionalizing~~ Functionalizing monomers are generally provided in the range and between about 1% and about 20%.